UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

JAY KRUISE, :

Plaintiff : CIVIL ACTION NO. 3:21-543

v. : (JUDGE MANNION)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT:

OF THE ARMY, et al.,

:

Defendants

ORDER

In accordance with this Court's memorandum issued this same day,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- (1) Judge Arbuckle's February 2023 report and recommendation, (Doc. 50), is **ADOPTED IN ITS ENTIRETY**. Just Arbuckle's September 2022 report and recommendation, (Doc. 32), is **NOT ADOPTED as moot**.
- (2) The defendants' motion to dismiss, (Doc. 18), is **GRANTED, IN PART**, and **DENIED, IN PART**.
 - **a.** Defendants' motion to dismiss as to Plaintiff's retaliation claim (Count III) is **GRANTED**. Plaintiff's retaliation claim in Count III is **DISMISSED** with **prejudice**.
 - **b.** Defendants' motion to dismiss as to Plaintiff's *Bivens* claim (Count IV) is **GRANTED**. Plaintiff's *Bivens* claim in Count IV is **DISMISSED** with **prejudice**.

- c. Defendants' motion to dismiss Plaintiff's Racial Discrimination / Disparate Treatment claim (Count V) is GRANTED with respect to claims related to incidents that occurred in 2014 and 2015 and DENIED with respect to the claims related to Plaintiff being placed on leave and his eventual termination. The claims in Count V related to incidents that occurred in 2014 and 2015 are DISMISSED with prejudice.
- **d.** Defendants' motion to dismiss Plaintiff's claim for punitive damages is **GRANTED**. Plaintiff's punitive damages claim is **DISMISSED** with **prejudice**.
- **e.** Defendants' motion to dismiss Plaintiff's remaining claims is **DENIED**.
- (3) Plaintiff's motion to amend, (Doc. 25), is **DISMISSED** as moot.
- (4) The case is referred back to Judge Arbuckle for further case management, including a decision regarding whether, in the interests of justice, Defendants should be given an opportunity to file a motion to dismiss Plaintiff's Privacy Act claim (Count VI).

S/ Malachy E. Mannion
MALACHY E. MANNION
United States District Judge

DATE: March 28, 2023

21-543-01-ORDER